(c) the percentage of Government and captive customers on the one side, and outsiders on the other, and the implications in case Government/ Captive market is not available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) HAL has been consistently declaring dividends for the past several years including 166% dividend in the year 2005-2006. HAL does not get any budgetary support from the Government. There are no particular defects in the areas of administration, finance, legal-and technical. Of course, there is always scope of improvement in these areas.

(b) The Indian Armed Forces, *viz.,* Indian Air Force, Amry, Navy and the Indian Coast Guard are the major customers of HAL.

(c)As on 31st March 2006,87% of HAL's total business is with the Indian Defence service and the remaining 13 per cent with others, *i.e.* civil sectors and exports. HAL is working with global aerospace industries to develop and manufacture high end products both for civil and export markets.

Below standard military equipment from Russia

2471. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether military equipments supplied by Russia in recent years have been found to be below standard;

(b) whether product support also from Russia has been found to be not satisfactory;

(c) whether the Defence Ministry has taken-up the issue with the Government of Russia; and

(d) if so, what assurance, if any, the Government of India has been given in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) Defence equipments are procured from various indigenous and foreign sources including Russia. These are inducted after prescribed inspections and trials. India and Russia have a longstanding trade relationship in defnce sector. There is an Indo-Russian Inter-Governmental Commission on Military Technical Cooperation and there are Working Groups. The issues

of product support are constantly pursued with the ovendors and the Russian Government on a continuous basis. Problems relating to product support are resolved through mutual discussions and through diplomatic channels.

Utilization of scientific manpower by DRDO

2472. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has the third largest scientific and technical manpower in the world, including DRDO;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that people in India derive hardly any benefit from the size of the manpower, including DRDO;

(c) whether the technologies developed by the huge manpower are not utilized and the taxpayer's money goes waste; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor, and whether Government propose to review its unfruitful policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K ANTONY): (a) There is no authentic statistics available in this regard. However, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) holds 6812 scientific and 10959 technical manpower.

(b) No, Sir. Science and technology has been used as an effective instrument for the socio-ecnomic development of the country. The output of Science and Technology has benefited the society and improved the quality of life. The technologies developed by DRDO *viz.* Missiles, Radars, Battle Tanks, Electronic Warfare System, Combat Vehicles, Armaments and Explosive, Life Support systems etc. have been used by all the three Services, other security services and spin off to the society as well.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.